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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Donald W. Petersen et al.

Art Unit : 1651

Serial No. : 09/915,997

Examiner : Witz, Jean C.

Filed : July 26, 2001

Title : BONE GRAFT SUBSTITUTE COMPOSITION

RECEIVED

MAY 28 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed March 22, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please add new claims 16-27:

2126(a) 31-16. A bone graft substitute composition, consisting of:

calcium sulfate hemihydrate;

a mixing solution; and

a plasticizing substance.

33-37. 31 The composition of claim 16, wherein the plasticizing substance comprises a cellulose derivative.

B' 33-38. 31 The composition of claim 16, wherein the plasticizing substance is selected from a group consisting of sodium carboxymethylcellulose, methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, ethylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose, and cellulose acetate butyrate.

34-39. 31 The composition of claim 16, wherein the plasticizing substance comprises hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose.

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